



CORNERSTONE
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Children Dedication

Liam, Sadie, and Julia



What is a child dedication?

- We are not declaring Liam, Sadie, and Julia to be Christians (this is not a baptism).
- Faith in Christ is a personal and voluntary decision we hope and pray each will soon make.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (NIV)

What is a child dedication?

- A child dedication is about **commitment**:
 1. **Children:** Bill and Kayela are *committing* and entrusting Liam, Sadie, and Julia to the Lord.
 2. **Parents:** Bill and Kayela are *committing* themselves to raise Liam, Sadie, and Julia in the Lord.
 3. **Church:** We are *committing* to praying and caring for Bill, Kayela, Liam, Sadie, and Julia.

Commitment #1: Children

- As believers we commit our children to the Lord because they already belong to him.

Psalm 139:14-15 (NIV)

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Commitment #2: Parents

- God entrusts our children to us in order for us to raise them to know Christ Jesus.
- Parents' most important responsibility is the spiritual care of their child.

Deuteronomy 6:5-7 (NIV)

5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Commitment #3: Church

- Discipling children is a joint effort between parents and the church.
- The church prayerfully and actively supports parents and parents take personal responsibility as they work with the church.

Psalm 78:5-7 (NIV)

5 He decreed statutes for Jacob
and established the law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach their children,
6 so the next generation would know them,
even the children yet to be born,
and they in turn would tell their children.
7 Then they would put their trust in God
and would not forget his deeds
but would keep his commands.

The Gospel makes this possible

- God gave his one and only Son Jesus to save us.
- We cannot condemn ourselves for our failures nor feel prideful for our successes. Why? Because God forgives us for our sins and loves us as his children.
- **Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

Our Family



Liam Douglas

- Abbreviated version of William (after his dad)
- **Origin:** Irish - “Resolute protector”
- His name reminds us of the one who offers us true and complete protection.

Psalm 46:1 (NIV)

God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.

A Prayer for Liam

May Liam Douglas grow to become a man who finds his complete protection in his Heavenly Father's love for him in both joys and trials. May he protect and care for those who are weak and needy. May Jesus always be his shield, refuge, and hope. Amen.

Sadie Pearl

- **Origin:** Hebrew - “Princess” (variation of Sarah)
- Sadie’s biblical namesake, Sarah (Abraham’s wife), was beautiful, broken, and an example of faith.

Hebrews 11:11 (NIV) And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise.

A Prayer for Sadie

May Sadie Pearl grow to become a woman who finds her complete satisfaction in being a daughter of the King. May she always have faith in her Heavenly Father's love for her and extend this love to others. May Christ be her treasure, her pearl of great price, and may she be found in him. Amen.

Julia Ivy

- **Origin:** Latin - “Youthful”
- Julia’s name reminds us of Jesus Christ’s love for the little children.
- **Matthew 19:14** (NIV) Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

A Prayer for Julia

May Julia Ivy become a woman who has everlasting life through her relationship with her Heavenly Father and Christ Jesus. May she encourage others and bring joy and youthful vitality to all around her. May she fearlessly follow after Christ from the days of her youth. Amen.

Rechelle and Seth



What are “godparents?”

- Traditionally, godparents witness the baptism of a child and promise to continue a child’s Christian Education if something were to happen to the child’s parents.
- If anything were to happen to Bill and Kayela, Seth and Rechelle are promising to raise Liam, Sadie, and Julia to love and follow Christ Jesus.

Now for our commitments.

Parental Commitments

Bill and Kayela, will you entrust Liam, Sadie, and Julia to the LORD — to his providential plan and care? Will you commit, with the help of this church community, to instruct your children by word and example, in the truth of God's Word? Will you teach the gospel to your children and pray regularly for them to believe in Jesus? And will you pray with them and love them as your Heavenly Father loves you?

- With God's help we will.

Godparent Commitments

Rechelle and Seth, do you promise to love and pray for Liam, Sadie, and Julia to know Jesus? If something were to happen to Bill and Kayela would you faithfully and consistently fulfill the commitments Bill and Kayela have made here today?

- With God's help we will.

Church Commitments

Please rise. We will respond as one on the next page.

Church, do you, the people of the Lord, promise to receive Liam, Sadie, and Julia in love, pray for them, help instruct them in the faith, and encourage and sustain them in this fellowship of believers? Do you promise to support, encourage, and pray for Bill and Kayela as they seek to raise up their children in the training and instruction of the Lord?

Church Commitments

If yes, please read the following:

With joy and thanksgiving, as Christ's church, with God's help, we promise to love, encourage, and support you as you follow Christ and raise Liam, Sadie, and Julia in the faith.

Elder prayer

Children's Ministry gift